

NC Check-Ins Reading, Mathematics, and Science Assessment Brief



Purpose of the NC Check-Ins

NC Check-Ins are interim assessments developed by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) that are aligned to North Carolina grade-level content standards (for reading and mathematics) and North Carolina Essential Standards (for science).

The main purpose of NC Check-Ins is to provide students, teachers, and parents with immediate in-depth action data and a reliable estimate of students' current performance on selected subsets of content standards. Both the end-of-grade (EOG) and end-of course (EOC) tests share a common question bank with the NC Check-Ins, which then exposes students taking the NC Check-Ins to similar question types and rigor found on the EOGs and EOCs.

Following the administration of an NC Check-In, teachers may use the test materials along with score reports to inform and guide reviews and instruction for the standards. Parents may view the NC Check-Ins, but only within the school setting through customary communication (i.e., individual parent and teacher conferences at the school). Parents may not make copies of the NC Check-In questions, nor take pictures of any part of the assessment.

Participation

School participation in the NC Check-Ins is voluntary and open to all public school units.

Availability

For the 2020–21 school year, the following NC Check-Ins are available:

- Grades 3–8 Reading (measures all assessable grade-level content standards and increases in text complexity)
- Grades 3–8 Mathematics (measures selected subsets of grade-level content standards)
- Grades 5 and 8 Science (measures Physical Science, Earth Science, and Life Science)
- NC Math 1 (measures selected subsets of course-level content standards)

NCDPI-Designated NC Check-In Windows

Each NC Check-In window is open approximately two months for the test administration and the student and teacher review period.

Reading at Grades 3–8 Mathematics at Grades 3–8 Science at Grades 5 and 8	
NC Check-In 1	October–November
NC Check-In 2	January–February
NC Check-In 3	March–April

NC Math 1 Year Long Course	
NC Check-In 1	November–December
NC Check-In 2	March–April

NC Math 1 Block 1 (Fall Semester)	
NC Check-In 1	September 16–October 31
NC Check-In 2	November–December

NC Math 1 Block 2 (Spring Semester)	
NC Check-In 1	February–March
NC Check-In 2	April–May

Quick Facts about the NC Check-Ins

- NC Check-Ins are not timed assessments. However, the time it takes for most students to complete an NC Check-In is about ninety minutes.
- Reading and science NC Check-Ins contain multiple-choice questions.
- The grades 3–8 mathematics and the NC Math 1 NC Check-Ins have a calculator inactive and a calculator active section. The first part of the assessment is calculator inactive; the second part of the assessment is calculator active. For the calculator inactive part, students are not allowed to use a calculator. For the calculator active part, students can use a calculator.
 - Question types vary and include
 - Grades 3–8 and NC Math 1
 - Multiple-choice questions (online and paper/pencil)
 - Grades 5–8 and NC Math 1
 - Gridded response questions (paper/pencil)
 - Numeric entry questions (online)
 - During the 2020–21 school year, schools may administer the NC Check-Ins to students receiving instruction remotely.

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